



## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release:  
May 18, 2004

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### **Governor Proclaims Emergency Medical Services Week in North Dakota**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor John Hoeven has proclaimed May 16 through 22, 2004, as Emergency Medical Services Week in North Dakota.

This year's event will honor the more than 5,000 personnel who serve the state's emergency medical services system. The theme, "EMS: There When You Need Us," emphasizes that no matter what the emergency is, or when it occurs – be it an injury, an automobile crash, a heart attack, a diabetic emergency or childbirth – EMS responders are there to provide immediate lifesaving care and transportation.

"Emergency medical services are an integral part of North Dakota's health care system," Hoeven said. "These dedicated and determined emergency workers help to ensure the health, protection and physical well-being of all North Dakotans. They are heroes every day."

The members of emergency medical services teams, both pre-hospital and in-hospital, are highly trained specialists ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Emergency medical services systems dramatically improve the survival and recovery rate of people who experience sudden illness or injury, and EMS personnel are dedicated to saving lives through injury prevention, safety awareness and emergency preparedness.

For more information about Emergency Medical Services Week, contact Tim Meyer, Division of Emergency Medical Services, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2388.

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PROCLAMATION  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK**  
May 16-22, 2004

**WHEREAS**, emergency medical services are a vital public service for North Dakota citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

**WHEREAS**, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota's emergency medical services system consists of physicians, nurses, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, advanced first aid ambulance attendants, first responders, firefighters, educators, administrators and others; and

**WHEREAS**, emergency medical services team members, whether career or volunteer, participate in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 16-22, 2004, **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven  
Governor